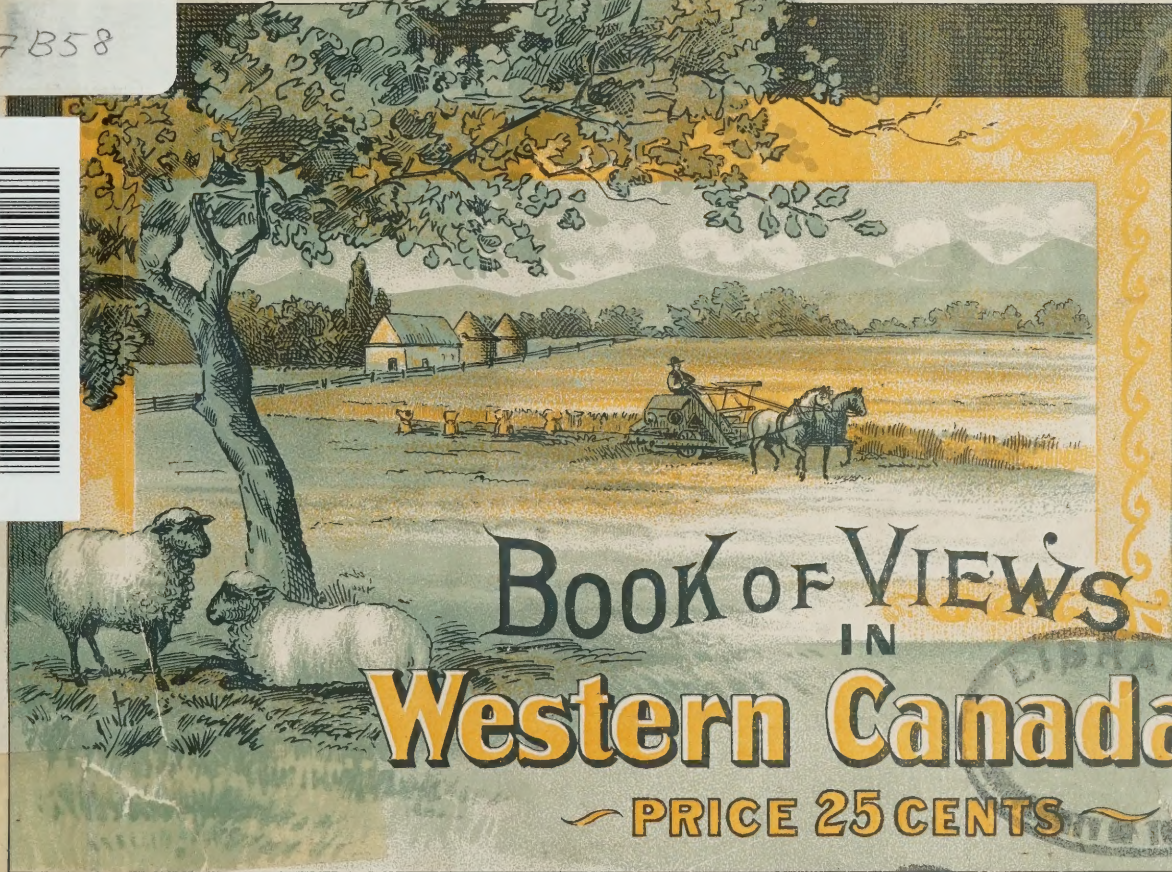


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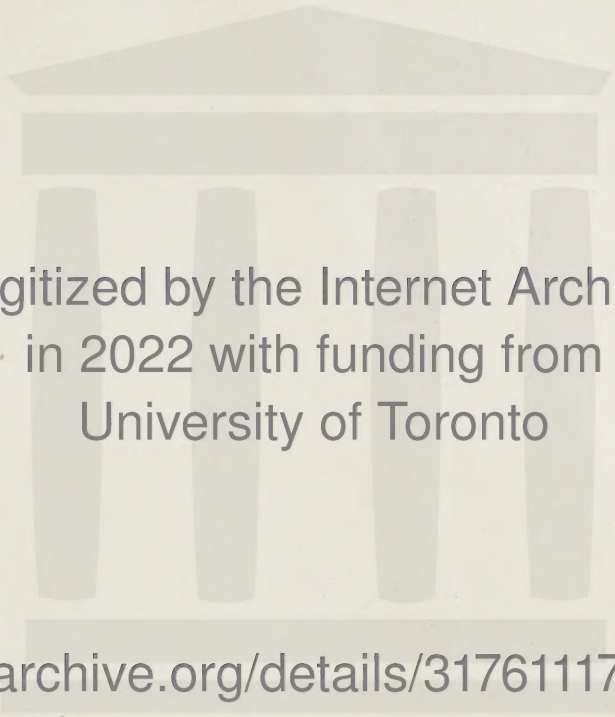
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BOOK OF VIEWS
IN
Western Canada
— PRICE 25 CENTS —



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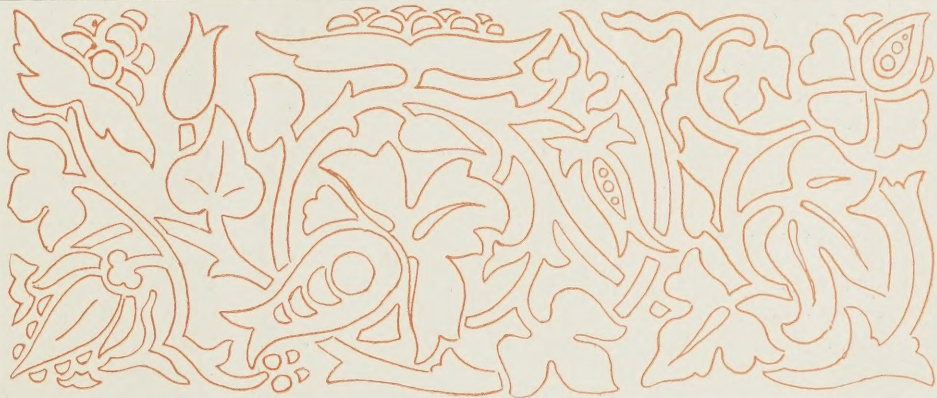
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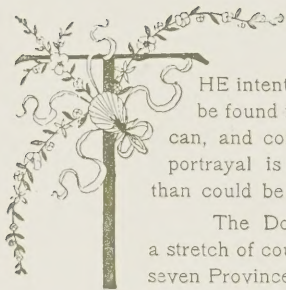
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Book of Views in Western Canada





THE intention of this Brochure is to briefly outline some of the numerous points of interest to be found in Western Canada. The illustrations given herein speak more strongly than words can, and convey in a more adequate manner the resources of the great Canadian West. Their portrayal is true to life, and a better conception can be had of what the country is capable of than could be conveyed in many chapters, which might easily be devoted to the subject.

The Dominion of Canada itself, of which Western Canada only forms a part, comprises a stretch of country from the Atlantic to the Pacific, 3,000 miles in extent. It is composed of the seven Provinces of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia, and the Districts of Keewatin, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Athabasca, and the territory beyond, which embraces the Yukon. This country's area is equal to the entire continent of Europe, and in this immense stretch of land every variety of climate and soil, and every diversity of opportunity, is to be found. It is difficult to give in words an idea of the immensity of Canada, or of the exceeding richness of its natural resources.

Though it has wonderful and ever-increasing sources of wealth in its mines, forests and seas, the mass of the people are largely dependent upon agricultural pursuits—for which portions of the country are exceptionally well fitted, particularly Western Canada—a phrase which may be roughly used to designate the great Canadian prairies, which begin in Manitoba, run westward to the Rocky Mountains a thousand clear miles, and northward for hundreds of miles. In this vast plain there is but a sprinkling of the millions that will yet make their homes there; for the initial difficulties of settlement having been overcome, the tide of settlers is beginning to pour in from all sections of the world. The superior quality of the wheat and other cereals grown upon these lands, and the greater yield per acre, when compared with any other portions of the continent, are now universally acknowledged; and, while the crops obtained are greater, the amount of labor required to produce them, owing to the nature of the soil, is less than in any other country. The climate and natural pasturage are both highly favorable to stock-raising, and as a result no finer cattle are to-day shipped across the Atlantic to the English market than those which have matured upon the plains of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.



Group of Farm Buildings in Manitoba.

But Canada is by no means limited to agriculture. Always rich in mines, recent discoveries in British Columbia and the Yukon promise to make Canada the richest mining country in the world. Prof. W. C. Roberts-Austen, of the British Mint, speaking of the minerals of Canada at a late meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the greatest scientific body in the world, said:—"Canada's principal metals are gold, silver, nickel, copper, lead and iron. There are also manganese, chromium, antimony, mercury and zinc, besides platinum and rarer metals, such as molybdenum, which, though sparsely distributed in nature, seem to exert, when alloyed with other metals, an influence on their physical properties out of all proportion to the amount actually present. The recognition of the wealth and variety of Canada's mineral resources had been recent, and the development of mineral industries slow, although since the last meeting of the British Association in Canada, in 1884, the output had doubled." Prof. Austen passed in review the present state and prospects of the supply of precious metals in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. As regards Ontario, it was stated that discoveries of gold had been made over an area of some 2,000 square miles, throughout a tract of 100 miles wide by 200 miles long. At the present time, interest is mainly centred in the Yukon, British Columbia, and in Ontario, as the gold-producing districts.

Naturally, under such circumstances, Canada's progress of late years has been phenomenal, and it is now one of the most prosperous countries on the globe. Canada is self-governed. The parliament of the Dominion and the legislatures of the different Province as well as the councils and school boards of the various municipalities, are elected by the people. Manhood suffrage practically prevails. There is no country in which the self-ruling power of the people is more observable; where law and order are better





A Western Canada Home.

maintained: where greater attention is paid to the education of the young, and where grander opportunities are open for securing a home and a competency through energy and industry.

Topography and Climate of Western Canada

The whole country, spreading from the forest regions of the east to the Rocky Mountains on the west, is thus very concisely described in "Climates of Canada," by Dr. P. H. Bryce, M.A., M.D., Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario:—

"The lowest area of the plains is that of Manitoba, the Red River from the south, the Saskatchewan from the west, and their tributaries, all trending towards Lake Winnipeg and thence to Hudson's Bay. All this great area, extending for some distance to the height of land in Dakota, U. S., shows evidences of once having been an immense inland sea, with its several beaches, marking more or less distinctly the successive levels of the waters of what geologists have chosen to call the great post-glacial Lake Agassiz. A black alluvium of the richest nature covers practically the whole of this country, and makes the great wheat-fields of the Canadian Northwest, yielding their 'Manitoba No. 1 hard.' The lowest area of this region is limited westward by the Pembina Mountain, Riding Mountain, and the Porcupine Hills, having a general level of 800 feet. Westward, the next area reaches a height of some 1,500 feet, and runs westward some 250 miles, when the next elevation of 2,000 feet is reached. This country—the Grand Coteau—rises till a height of 4,000 feet is reached in the foothills of the Rockies, in the region about Calgary. This upland shows more evidences of deep erosion of the valleys of its streams, and has here and there bluffs, with high hills and plateaus, notably the Cypress Hills, north of the American desert, with climatic peculiarities quite its own. This whole higher region, marked notably by a greater dryness, is essentially a grazing or ranching country. While cold, owing to the altitude



Homesteads in Western Canada.

and the exposure of its plains to the winds from the mountains, its dry plains are, nevertheless, covered with the peculiar bunch grass of the country, which has served to make the foothills of the Rockies the greatest stock-raising areas of the continent. The climate of the whole great prairie country of the Canadian Northwest is marked by seasonal rather than daily extremes, except in the higher foothills of the mountains to the west, where the daily range is notable."

Referring in still more definite language to the climate of this splendid agricultural region, the remarks of Mr. R. F. Stupart, Superintendent of the Meteorological Service of Canada, will be read with much interest by those familiar with the climate of England and Eastern Canada:—

"The salient features of the climate of the Canadian Northwest Territories are a clear, bracing atmosphere during the greater part of the year: cold winters and warm summers, and a small rainfall and snowfall. The mean temperature for July at Winnipeg is 66°, and at Prince Albert 62°. The former temperature is higher than in any part of England, and the latter is very similar to that found in many parts of the southern counties. The diurnal range, however, is different from any found in England, the average daily maximum temperature at Winnipeg being 78°, with a minimum of 53°, and at Prince Albert a maximum of 76°, with a minimum of 48°; and, owing to these high, dry temperatures, with much sunshine, the crops come to maturity quickly.

"In April the monthly mean temperature of 40° is found in Alberta and Assiniboia, and passes eastward to Manitoba, indicating a spring slightly in advance of Southwestern Ontario, on the 42nd parallel of latitude. Spring in April makes rapid strides in Manitoba, with an average day temperature of 48°.

"In considering the climate of the Canadian prairies, the fact should not be lost sight of that, although the total rainfall averages only 13.35 inches for the





Threshing in Western Canada.

Territories and 17.34 inches in Manitoba, the amounts falling between April 1st and October 1st are, respectively, 9.39 inches and 12.87 inches, or 70.3 and 74.2 per cent. of the whole. The average 12.87 inches in Manitoba is not far short of the average for Ontario during the same six months."

Again quoting from "Climates of Canada":—

"The bright, clear cold of the ordinary winter day in Manitoba is most enjoyable. With little or no thawing, and no sea of uncongealed great fresh-water lakes to supply dampness, the air is crisp and dry: and where in England, or on the sea coast, with a few degrees of frost, the air is chill and raw, many more degrees of cold in the Canadian Northwest is only enjoyable and stimulating.

"The winter goes, as it comes, almost in a day. The crescent sun pours his powerful rays through the transparent atmosphere, and, when the thaw has begun, the great atmospheric disturbances, caused by the heated centres, cause the northwest wind to blow and lick up the water which covers the plains, seemingly all in a day. One has not infrequently seen the water on the low ground a foot deep in the morning and gone in the evening; while in another day or two the black alluvium, which, like the blackened plate of glass, absorbs heat in seemingly enormous quantities, is dry and powdery on the fields plowed in the autumn. Seeding proceeds when the frost is not more than four inches out of the ground. Then in a few days the prairie is dotted with the spring flowers. Seldom is the spring long, damp and cold. Spring comes; growth is phenomenal, and the harvest of spring wheat is ripened in the middle of August. With such a soil, marvellous in the amount of its plant foods, and with the long, bright, even occasionally hot summer day, the metabolism of the plant cells is so rapid as only to be likened to the growth of plants under glass. To the plodding, laboring, waiting husbandman of England or Scotland it seems so unreal as to be incredible, that four, or at most five, short months should yield, for an area of 1,500,000 acres, some 30,000,000 bushels of wheat, and as much more of other grains, to feed the toiling millions of continental cities."

Men travel with teams everywhere; taking grain to market, hauling fuel, building and fencing material, etc. Stock will live out of doors, so far as the cold is concerned, but at times require to be fed with hay. They should, however, be housed at night. Everyone unites in testifying to the healthfulness of the country as it



Kootenay Falls, near Nelson, B. C.

affects stock. Plowing is general in the early part of April, though much of the land is usually plowed in the preceding autumn. The snow disappears rapidly and the ground dries quickly. Winter closes promptly and decisively. Sowing is done during almost the whole of April, and is finished in early May.

Dr. James Patterson, Chief Health Officer of Manitoba, reports:—

"That the climate is a good one for the development of man, is shown by the fact that those who have come here during the last twenty years have not deteriorated, but stand to-day the equal of any other people in mental or physical vigor, independent thought and action. That the climate is a good one for the propagation of our race, is shown by our school population, which is larger in proportion to our whole population than most others. That our climate is not the severe one that it is believed by many to be, is shown by the average attendance at school of all children of school age, being about equal in winter and summer, except in sparsely settled rural districts. We enjoy special immunity from cyclones and blizzards, and whoever saw a dust or sand storm in Manitoba? The number of absolutely clear, sunshiny days in this country is not exceeded in any other agricultural country habitable by white men. We have an average of 200 clear days out of 365. In Great Britain, on an average, six-tenths of the sky is obscured by clouds every day in the year. With regard to disease, we have none whatever peculiar to this country or climate. We are absolutely protected by our climatic conditions from several of the most dangerous and fatal, whilst several of those which are common to all peoples on the face of the earth are comparatively rare, owing to our climate. For example, we have never had, and never will have, cholera, yellow fever, malaria, or dysentery, so common and fatal to the inhabitants of warm climates. Inflammatory rheumatism is extremely rare, as compared with its prevalence in cool, damp climates. Asthma rarely develops here, whilst many who suffer from





Mr. R. Scott's Creamery at Shoal Lake, Manitoba.

it in the east are free from it in Manitoba. Consumption is as yet comparatively rare with us. Our pure dry air, our sunshiny days, and opportunities for out-door life, are antagonistic to its existence."

Manitoba

Manitoba is the central one of the seven provinces of the Dominion of Canada. It is situated in the very centre of the North American continent, being midway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The southern frontier of the Province, bordering on the United States, is about the same latitude as Paris and the south of Germany, and the Province itself is further south than the British Isles, Holland and Belgium.

Manitoba has an area about the same as is contained in England, Scotland and Ireland put together. Its width is about 300 miles, and extends northerly from the 49th parallel, comprising within its limits the famed grain-growing valleys of the Assiniboine and Red Rivers. Although called the Prairie Province of Canada, Manitoba has large areas of forests, numerous rivers, and vast water expansions. Its forests in the east, along the rivers and fringing its great lakes, and on its mountain elevations, furnish the settlers with fuel. Its principal rivers—the Red, Pembina and Assiniboine—give a great natural drainage system to all parts of the Province, and smaller streams form a perfect network throughout the country. Its larger lakes, Winnipeg, Manitoba and Winnipegosis, abound with fish, which are caught in immense quantities by organized companies for export to the principal cities of the United States, and to supply the local demand. Aside from the utility of these natural advantages put to a practical use, all combined, forests, rivers and lakes, have a mighty influence on the climate of Manitoba in increasing the rainfall and supplying an abundance of moisture. The population of Manitoba has steadily and rapidly increased during the past ten years and now numbers over 200,000 people, the greater proportion of whom are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The majority of the settlers are from Great Britain and Eastern Canada. Of the remainder there are, besides many from the United States, large colonies of Mennonites, Icelanders, Scandinavians, Doukhobors and Germans, many of whom had but small means on arrival in the Province, and at present they have comfortable homes and are amongst the most prosperous settlements in Manitoba.



Mr. S. Martin Rounthwaite.

Manitoba now enjoys in full the advantages of advanced civilization. It has nearly 1,600 miles of railway within its boundaries, the mileage having increased from 66 miles in 1879 to 1,571 in 1897; and telegraph lines branch out from Winnipeg to all parts of the Province. Wherever settlers are may be found villages, schools, churches and postal facilities. There is a uniform system of non-sectarian schools which are supported

partly by Federal grants from the Provincial Government and partly by a tax imposed on land for this purpose. Every child of school age is entitled to free tuition, under teachers who must pass a thorough examination and have special training for the work. A thorough practical education is assured in the common schools, which number nearly 1,100 in the Province. There are also 28 intermediate schools at central points, three collegiate schools and a university with which several denominational colleges are affiliated. All the religious bodies found in Canada are represented in Manitoba. Churches of the leading denominations are established in the towns and villages, and even in the newer and scattered settlements arrangements have been made for holding union services of the different denominations. There are lodges of the different orders—Masons, Odd Fellows, Foresters, Temperance, etc., etc.—throughout the country, and numerous Women's Aid societies and sewing circles. The farmers have organized a number of societies which are of incalculable value to the agricultural interests of the Province. There are over 50 agricultural societies, which hold annual fairs; 25 Farmers' Institutes for the discussion of practical questions, a Dairy Association, Cattle and Swine Breeders' Association and a Poultry Association. Municipalities have been organized in the settled portions—there being 75, besides the incorporated cities, towns, etc.

Mixed Farming.

For years the numerous prairies of the prairie and thousands of tons of hay in the low lands were allowed to go to waste for want of cattle to graze and feed upon them. Settlers are now availing themselves of this



Slocan Lake, Looking towards Slocan, B. C.

natural wealth and are giving more attention to stock-raising and dairying instead of confining their efforts to wheat-growing as formerly. In 1897 the exports of fat cattle were 15,000 head from the Territories, 28,000 stock cattle exported to United States, 16,500; hogs exported on foot or dressed, 12,500; received by Winnipeg packers and butchers, 25,000.

CROPS OF 1897.—The crop area and total yield of grain in Manitoba for 1897 was as follows, according to the official returns.—

					Under Crop, Acres.	Total Yield, Bushels.
Wheat	..	..	..	..	1,290,882	18,261,950
Oats	..	..	..	..	468,141	10,629,513
Barley	..	..	..	..	153,266	3,183,602
Flax	..	..	..	..	20,653	247,836
Other Grain		..	..	..	5,357	81,724
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	13,576	2,033,298
Roots	..	..	..	..	6,130	1,220,070
Total Crop					1,958,025	Total Grain 32,324,623

A comparison of these returns with those of previous years will show that Manitoba is making rapid progress along agricultural lines. For instance, the total crop area of 1897 shows an increase over the area of 1896 of 343,804 acres. The area in wheat has increased 291,284 acres, or 30 per cent. The increase in other crops has ranged from 6 to 20 per cent. Over 400,000 acres more than last year are prepared for next year's crop.

Dairying.

Twelve years ago no dairying was done in the Province except by a few farmers, who made a limited quantity of dairy butter for their own use and not enough to supply even that demand. About the year 1885 the first creamery was established in Manitoba. In the early part of 1895 the Manitoba Government



Ranching in the Foothills and on the Plains.

man took to advance the dairy industry of the Province, with very successful results. The Government granted aid to the farmers to establish creameries and cheese factories throughout the Province, where rent stock companies were formed and incorporated. The result of this aid was that in 1895 fourteen new creameries were established, making nineteen in all in the Province. Thirty-three new cheese factories were established, making fifty-two in all in the Province. In 1896, five additional creameries were established, and in 1897 five more were added to the list, making a total of twenty-nine. There were altogether forty-nine cheese factories in operation.

In 1894, the Government established a dairy school in the City of Winnipeg, which has proved a great success and a great benefit to the Province generally. There has been a large attendance of students at every session. The majority of butter and cheese makers that are manufacturing factories in Manitoba at the present time are those who have taken a course in the school. The estimated value of the dairy produce manufactured in 1894, both in the factories and on the farms was \$34,000 worth. In 1895 the actual export, taken from factory statements, was \$198,000 worth; while in 1896 another grand advance was experienced, the value of the export being \$247,000 worth. 1897 was the largest one on record; the output of creamery butter was 987,179 pounds; dairy butter, 1,410,285 pounds—a total of 2,397,464 pounds, valued at \$366,317.84; cheese (factory) 987,007 pounds, valued at \$83,895.59—a total value of \$450,213.43.

Manitoba is pre-eminently a dairy country, being exceedingly healthy for cattle and stock of all kinds. The very rapid strides that the industry has made during the past few years is only the fore-runner of its being the largest dairy province in the Dominion of Canada.



Mr. R. Thompson, Deloraine.

A careful estimate made by the Superintendent of the Government Experimental Farm at Brandon, of the cost of growing an acre of wheat is \$7.87 (£1 12s. 4d.) This was the result of an actual experiment on a yield of twenty nine bushels. The items of cost are: Plowing once, \$1.25; harrowing twice, 20 cents; cultivating twice, 40 cents; seed, (1½ bushels), 75 cents; drilling, 22 cents; binding, 33 cents; cord, 20 cents; stooking, 16 cents; stacking, 60 cents; threshing, \$1.46; teaming to market, four miles, 29 cents; two years' rent or interest on land valued at \$15 per acre, at 6 per cent., \$1.80; wear and tear of implements, 20 cents—a total of \$7.87.

Homesteads.

Homesteads can still be obtained on the outskirts of present settlements to the east of the Red River, and between Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, as well as on the west of Lake Manitoba, and in the newly opened Lake Dauphin District, through which railway communication with the great transcontinental system is now completely established. These districts are specially adapted for mixed farming, having an abundance of hay and water and with timber near at hand for building purposes. The Province still affords a vast field for experienced farmers who can bring money with them to make the first improvements on land, to provide themselves with stock and implements and to carry their families through the first year. Manitoba has room for thousands, with a sure road for them to comfort and prosperity. The early settlers of Manitoba were all of this class, bringing in carloads of stock and plenty of money to keep them a year.

Cheap Fuel.

Besides the large tracts of forest, both in and adjacent to Manitoba, there are vast coal areas within and contiguous to the Province, of such extent as to be practically inexhaustible. It has been discovered that between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains there are some 65,000 square miles of coal bearing strata.

The Legislature has effected an arrangement by which this coal is to be supplied at a rate not to exceed \$2.50 to \$5.00 per ton, according to locality. With the extraordinary transportation facilities possessed here, controlled and regulated as far as possible by the Legislature, and with enormous deposits of excellent



Melita Public School, Manitoba.

and the water is unusually warm. Manitoba has exceptional advantages, ensuring an ample and cheap supply of fuel to all her inhabitants.

Cities and Towns in Manitoba.

Winnipeg is the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine, the capital of Manitoba, and the chief distributing city of the whole Northwest of Canada. It is situated about midway between Montreal, the Atlantic coast summer terminus, and Vancouver, the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Pacific. The growth of Winnipeg has been phenomenal. In 1876 its population was 3,240; in 1881, 17,977; in the next five years it had increased to 26,327, in the next five to 28,500, and in the following five years reached 40,000. In 1897 the estimated population was 42,000. It has over 1,100 places of business, over 150 houses doing a wholesale or jobbing business, over 100 manufacturing institutions, 600 retail stores, representing every line of trade, and about one-half of the chartered banks of Canada have branches in the city. It is the heart city of the Dominion, in the language of Lord Lorne, and was spoken of as the Keystone City of Canada by Lord Dufferin.

The next in importance are Portage la Prairie (population 4,500), and Brandon (population 5,800), both on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the one 56 miles and the other 132 miles west of Winnipeg. These are bright and progressive towns, each

being a centre for a considerable area of fine farming country, and a railway junction point. Morris, Plum Coulee, Winkler,

Morden, Manitou, Pilot Mound, Crystal City, Clearwater, Cartwright, Holmfild, Killarney, Ninga, Boissevain, Deloraine, Napinka, Carmen, Treherne, Holland, Cypress River, Glenboro, Methven, Souris, Hartney, Melita, Wawanessa, Belmont, Baldur, Miami, Rosebank, Myrtle, Emerson, Gretna, and others (including the town of Estevan at the Souris coal fields), are market towns for the business of Southern Manitoba; and



Settlers Taking a Holiday.

McGregor, Silney, Austin, Carberry, Douglas, Griswold, Cak Lake, Virden and Elkhorn are large wheat markets in the centre and the west on the main line of the C. P. R. In the northwestern part of the Province are the towns of Westbourne, Gladstone, Arden, Neepawa, Minnedosa, Rapid City, Hamicta, Newdale, Strathclair, Shoal Lake, Birtle, Binscarth, Russell, etc.; Dauphin, Ochre River, Plumas and Winnipegosis, in the newly-opened Lake Dauphin District, now connected by railway with Winnipeg, and north of Winnipeg are Selkirk, Stonewall and the Icelandic village of Gimli on Lake Winnipeg.

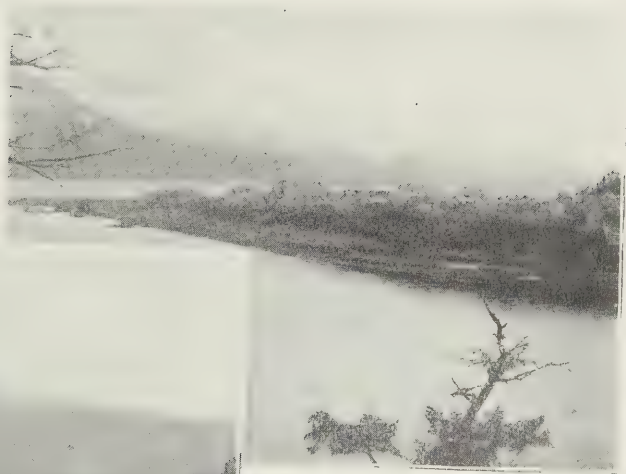
The Farmer's Wife in Manitoba.

It is a commonly accepted fact that farmers and their wives have a hard life in a new or comparatively new country. Those people living in the East or in the British Isles imagine that their relatives and friends who have moved to Manitoba, have to undergo great privations and struggles against adverse circumstances. Nothing could be further from the truth. In early days, before the railways opened up the ways of communication and traffic, the means of marketing and conveyance were necessarily limited, but even those who came to Manitoba when it was an all wagon and boat journey are more than satisfied with the new land, having lived to see their country developed and themselves in comfortable and even affluent circumstances.

The wives of the pioneers are especially to be considered, for it is a truism that if Mary is content John is thrifty and prosperous, but if the woman is discontented the man soon loses heart and wishes to move elsewhere for his wife's sake. To the women who have bravely, uncomplainingly and lovingly helped to bear the burden of home-making, rearing large families and in all ways proving their title to "help mate," is due all honor and praise. In a somewhat extended trip through Manitoba the homes of many of the representative farmers were recently visited, and failure to find a single discontented woman was the experience of one woman who is a firm and enthusiastic advocate of Western Canada as a home for those Eastern and European people who, with small means, wish to better their condition. In every home visited were found comfortable rooms, healthy children, pianos or organs in many places, and flowers



Freight Waggons at Yale, B. C.



Kaslo, B. C.
General View Looking East.

allowing either within or without the hospitally opened door. Nothing could be further from the minds of the people, and the only means of reaching them is to go to them, and to do so in the name of God and of the land.

Assiniboia

The District of Assiniboia lies between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, and south of the District of Saskatchewan. It extends north from the International Boundary to the 53rd parallel of latitude, and contains an area of thirty-four million acres. Travelling westward from the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the district is entered at a point 212 miles west of Winnipeg. It is divided into two great areas—Eastern and Western Assiniboia—each of which has its own peculiar character and features. The eastern part is essentially a wheat growing and mixed farming country, and the western part of the latter especially adapted for ranching. In both divisions minerals are found, and on the bars of the south branch of the Saskatchewan river, in Western Assiniboia, gold mining is profitably carried on.

Eastern Assiniboia.

There is nothing to mark any difference between Manitoba and Eastern Assiniboia, which is known as the Park Country of the Canadian Northwest. The general aspect of the country is rolling prairie, dotted over with clumps

100



Mr. Simon Clark, Rounthwaite.

of trees, usually found bordering lakes, streams and meadows; in the hollows grow the heavy, luxuriant grasses, where the farmer obtains his supply of winter hay. The principal grains grown are wheat and oats. The ordinary yield of wheat is from twenty to thirty bushels to the acre. All kinds of roots, too, are a sure crop. The soil is so rich that no fertilizers are necessary, so that in this direction a large amount of time and money is saved. Nowhere can farming be done more easily, and nowhere can the frugal, earnest and industrious man start on a smaller capital. Coal in abundance is found in the south, in the district drained by the Souris river, and there is direct rail connection northwest with the main line of the C. P. R., and eastwardly to points in Manitoba.

This district, including the Province of Manitoba, will one day be one of the greatest wheat producing sections of the American continent, for the following reasons:—1. It has a soil particularly rich in the food of the wheat plant. 2. A climate under which the plant comes to maturity with great rapidity. 3. On account of its northern latitude it receives more sunshine during the period of growth than the country to the south. 4. Absence of rust due to dryness of climate. 5. Absence of insect foes. These conditions are especially favorable to the growth of the hard, flinty wheat of the Scotch Fyfe variety, that is so highly prized by millers all the world over, giving it a value of from ten to twenty-five cents a bushel over the softer varieties grown in Europe and the older parts of Canada.

For agricultural purposes the districts of Moosomin and Qu'Appelle are wonderfully fertile, as they lie in the great stretch of the fertile belt. The Moosomin district is included in the country between the Manitoba boundary on the east, on the north by the lovely valley of the Qu'Appelle River, on the south by the Pipestone Creek, a perfect paradise for cattle, and the second meridian on the west. The Qu'Appelle district is that section which lies immediately west of the Moosomin to the height of land at McLean Station on the C. P. R., round to the Beaver Hills and south almost to the International Boundary line. Included in this area are the Pleasant Plains, no less fertile than the famous Portage Plains of Manitoba, where crops are phenomenally large. The soil is generally loam, covered with about twelve to eighteen inches of black vegetable mould, which after the second plowing makes a fine seed bed, easy to work, and of the most productive nature. Generally speaking these remarks apply to all the eastern part of the



Rossland, British Columbia, Looking West.

district. The Beaver Hills and the Touchwood Hills in the northern part are especially well adapted for stock raising. Eastern Assiniboia offers an opening to the poor man if he will work and exercise economy, for after a year or two of hard work he finds himself in possession of a home, all his own, free from the harassing conditions of a rented or mortgaged farm.

Western Assiniboia.

The eastern part of this section is similar to that of Eastern Assiniboia, and is favorable for mixed farming. With Regina and Moose Jaw as their centres, are two large areas, 50 by 90 miles, admirably suited for grain, stock and dairying. From Swift Current Creek, the region is fully equal to the Bow River District in Alberta as a stock country. It is everywhere thickly covered with a good

growth of nutritious grasses—the grass is usually the short, crisp variety, known as "Buffalo Grass," which becomes to all appearances dry about mid-

summer, but is still green and growing at the roots and forms excellent pasture both in winter and summer. It is amazing the rapidity with which poor emaciated animals brought from the east get sleek and fat on the Buffalo grass of the plains.

The supply of timber on the hills is considerable. There is also an abundance of fuel of a different kind in the coal seams that are exposed in many of the valleys. Settlers in this section of Western Canada have thus an abundant supply of timber suitable for house logs and fencing, and both coal and wood for fuel.

About Maple Creek irrigation works are being actively prosecuted with most beneficial results.

The Cypress Hills, which may be dimly seen in the south from the railway, are especially adapted for stock raising, and as their elevation is sufficient to make general farming an uncertainty, the grass land that nature has so bountifully provided will not likely be disturbed by the plow, thus giving to the farmer on the plains adjoining, never-failing hay meadows and unlimited pasture ground for his stock. The



Captain Hutton, Turtle Mountain.

snowfall is light, the climate is tempered by the Chinook winds, and water and shelter are everywhere abundant.

Great herds of range cattle roam at will all over these seemingly boundless pastures. The profits to the stockmen are large, as can be readily imagined when it is shown that \$40 per head is paid for steers on these ranges, animals that cost their owners only the interest on the original investment incurred in stocking the ranch, and their share in the cost of the annual round-ups. Parties in search of land for stock-raising are advised to examine the country southwest of Swift Current Station, along the Swift Current Creek, south and west of Gull Lake, south of Maple Creek, the Valley of Mackay Creek, that flows north from the hills and south of Irvine and Dunmore, where connection is again made with the Canadian Pacific railway system.

Ranching.

An experienced ranchman furnishes the following as an instance of how a man with a small stock of capital and enterprise, energy and discretion, can make a first rate start and in time a comfortable home and competency for himself, granted that he has £100 (or \$500) in his pocket when he arrives: "Let him first find a rancher who will give him annual employment at a wage of about \$10 or \$15 per month, with board and lodging. Having found this let him take his \$500 and invest it in yearling steers at \$16 per head, brand them and turn them out on the range with his employer's cattle; this he will have but little difficulty in obtaining permission to do. In two years' time these will have become three-year-old, and will realize from \$34 to \$37 per head, thereby doubling the money invested in them. During the two years he has been working he has earned \$360, of which we will allow that for incidental expenses he has spent \$110. He has, therefore, supposing him to have sold his steers at \$35 per head, which is considerably below the average price, \$1,410. With half this let him buy two-year-old steers at \$22 per head, and with the remainder yearlings, giving 22 of the former and 41 of the latter. Then let him work for one more year, and with the money earned build house, sheds, stables, etc., so that by the end of the 3rd year he will be in a position to start for himself, by which time he will have 22 three-year-old, which will realize \$770, plus 41 two-year-old, which will be ready for the market the year following and will realize \$1,455. So, by judicious management, he can have an ever-increasing bunch of cattle ready for the market. Remember that no man can do this without paying strict attention to



Breaking, Seven Miles from Boissevain, Manitoba.

business, or without looking well after the cattle. Many men fail, solely because they neglect to take proper precautions and make proper preparations for a hard winter. In time a man can commence breeding, but my advice to beginners is 'buy nothing but steers.' Firstly, because they are marketable; secondly, because they are less likely to suffer from the hardships of winter than cows.

"In the course of my travels I have seen several men start upon the principle I have outlined, and meet with success beyond their most sanguine hopes. I may add that the ranches in this country are built almost entirely of logs, which are cut and hauled direct from the bush, and first rate buildings they make. Among the half-breeds are many first-class woodsmen, who will cut, haul and build the logs at a very moderate figure. There are locations to be had where hay and water are plentiful and the winters usually fairly mild."

Dairying.

Both Eastern and Western Assiniboia are especially well adapted for dairying, and the industry has been making great strides during the past few years. Creameries have been established in different parts of the District, and are now in successful operation at Indian Head, Regina, Moose Jaw, Maple Creek, Moosomin, Qu'Appelle, Grenfell, Whitewood and Yorkton. They are yearly doing a largely increasing business, and are a profitable source of cash revenue to the settlers in their vicinity. The natural inducements for the establishment of creameries are very great. There are nutritious grasses, and large ranges for stock. The water is plentiful and pure, and the climate is most favorable.

Towns of Assiniboia.

The principal town of Assiniboia is Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territories. This is a railway centre and an active business place. The Legislature meets at Regina, and the town is the headquarters of the Mounted Police and other public offices, with a population of 2,300. A branch line runs north through the Qu'Appelle district and on to Prince Albert, on the north branch



General Views, Trail Creek.

of the Saskatchewan. Moosomin, Broadview, Grenfell, Wolseley, Indian Head and Qu'Appelle are other towns in the eastern district, and Fort Qu'Appelle is beautifully situated in the valley of Qu'Appelle, eighteen miles north of the railway—Yorkton and Saltcoats being the centre of settlements in the northeastern part of East Assiniboia. Moose Jaw, with a population of 1,200, is another town, forty-two miles west of Regina, at the junction of the C. P. R. and the Soo line, running to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Sault Ste. Marie, where connection is again made with the Canadian Pacific railway system. Maple Creek is a thriving place, and Medicine Hat, on the south branch of the Saskatchewan, is the chief town of Western Assiniboia, and Dunmore is the junction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, which runs westerly past the extensive coal mines at Lethbridge, to a point in the West Kootenay mining country through the Crow's Nest Pass and East Kootenay, opening up a vast country rich in minerals, furnishing a good cash market for the produce of the farms and ranches of Western Canada.

Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan, lying north of Assiniboia, is the largest of the four provisional districts which were carved out of the Territories by the Dominion Parliament in 1882. Its area is 106,700 square miles. It is nearly twice as large as England and Wales, and almost as large as England, Ireland and Scotland, and is capable of sustaining almost an equal population. In shape it is an oblong parallelogram, which extends from Nelson River, Lake Winnipeg and the western boundary of Manitoba, on the east, to the 112th degree of west longitude on the west, and lies between, or rather slightly overlaps, the 52nd and 55th parallels of north latitude. It is almost centrally divided by the main Saskatchewan river, which is altogether within the district, and by its principal branch, the North Saskatchewan, most of whose navigable length lies within its boundaries. It includes in the south a small proportion of the great plains, and in its general superficial features may be described as a mixed prairie and wooded region, abounding in water and natural hay, and well suited by climate and soil for the raising of wheat, horned cattle and sheep. Settlement is at present chiefly in the Prince Albert, Rosthern, Duck Lake, Shell River, Batoche, Stony Creek, Carlton, Carrot River, Payoonan, Birch Hills, The



Stock Ranch, Deloraine.

Forks, St. Laurent, St. Louis de Langevin, Domremy and the Battleford districts, in nearly all of which there is a great quantity of the best land open for selection free to homesteaders, i. e., settlers who take up land to cultivate and live upon it. The entire country is peopled with Canadians, Germans, Scotch, English, Russians and old country French. In every settlement there are churches and good schools. In great measure that which may be said of one district applies equally to the others. The crops consist of wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. Turnips and all kinds of vegetables are raised successfully. Normal yield of wheat (red fufe), about thirty bushels to the acre in favorable seasons; one to one and a half bushels sown to the acre. Oats, about sixty bushels from three sown to the acre. Barley has not been grown extensively, there being no demand for any quantity of this cereal in the district, but it has always given a good yield in favorable seasons. There has never been a failure of crops and settlers enjoy a steady home market, at which they realize good prices for their products. The district is well supplied with good roads and they are kept open winter and summer. Wild fruits of nearly every variety—strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry, blueberry, high bush cranberry, black currants, etc.—grow in profusion and small game is plentiful.

Prince Albert, with a population of 2,000, is the chief town of the territorial division. It is beautifully situated on the north bank of the North Saskatchewan, and is the centre of an extensive farming district. A branch line runs between it and Regina, and it is also the prospective terminus of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway, running from Portage la Prairie, in Manitoba. The town was incorporated in 1886, is lighted by electricity, and is well supplied with stores, churches, schools, three saw mills, two large grist mills, with a capacity of one hundred barrels per day each, large brewery, newspapers, etc. It is a divisional centre of the Mounted Police. Battleford (population 600), is another well situated town on the



Spuzzum Bridge, British Columbia.

delta of the Battle river, west of Prince Albert, which has a saw mill, police post, Indian industrial school, good hotels, etc.

Alberta.

The most westerly of the several divisions of the Northwest Territories, which extends from the western limits of Assiniboia to the eastern limits of British Columbia, within range of the Rocky Mountains, is divided into Northern Alberta and Southern Alberta. They are unlike in essential particulars, and are, therefore, occupied by different classes of settlers. The Calgary and Edmonton railway, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, passes through the two divisions from Macleod in the south, where it connects with the Crow's Nest Pass road, to Edmonton in the north, affording market and shipping facilities at a number of convenient points along the whole distance.

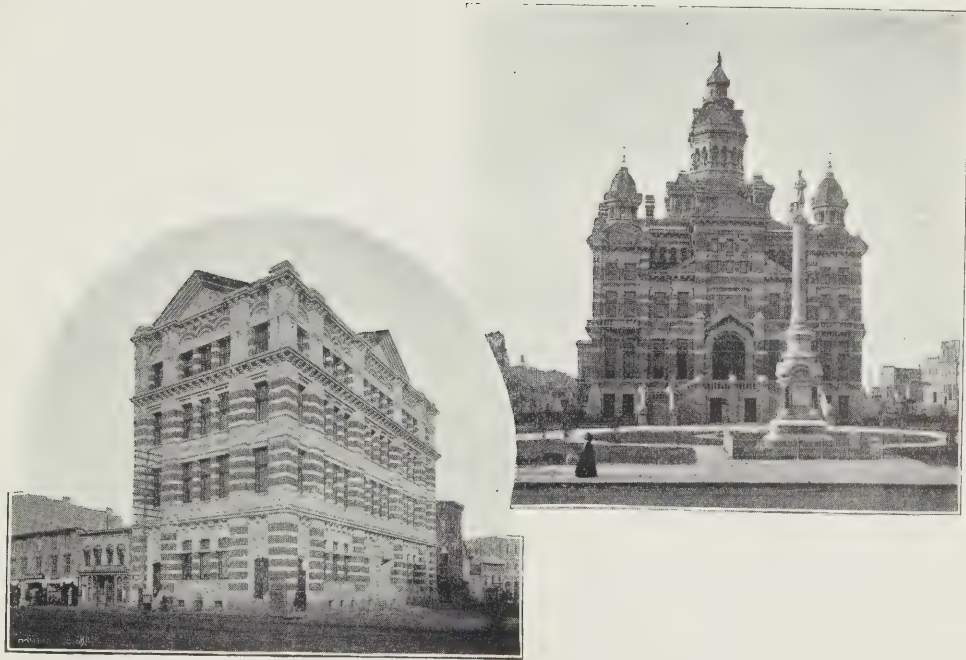
Northern Alberta.

Within the borders of Northern Alberta is a practically illimitable area of the most fertile land, well timbered and watered, and it has a clear, equable and healthful climate which makes it a pleasant country to live in. The surface of the country is gently undulating, and through the centre of the district the Saskatchewan river flows in a bed 200 feet below the level. Wood and prairie alternate irregularly. In some parts there are large plains free from timber and in others great areas of woods composed of large trees. The soil consists of a layer of from one to three feet of black vegetable mould, with little or no mixture of sand or gravel, bearing a growth of wild vegetation of a luxuriance seen in no other part of the Territories, and indeed seldom seen anywhere outside of the tropics. It is peculiar to this section of the country that the black mould is deeper on its knolls and ridges than in the hollows. With a soil of such depth and fertility, it is not wonderful that in ordinary good seasons a yield of oats of 100 to 114 weighed bushels to the acre has not been uncommon, and that less than sixty bushels is considered below the average; that barley will yield sixty bushels and wheat over forty, and potatoes of from two to three pounds weight are not a rarity. Of course, these yields have not been



In the Mountains.

attained every year, nor in any year by every farmer, but they have been attained without extraordinary exertions, and prove that the capacity is in the soil, if the tillage is given to bring it out. Live stock of all kinds is raised extensively, including horses of all grades, from heavy draught to Indian ponies, horned cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. Native horses do well without stabling all the year round, but good stock of whatever kind requires good treatment to bring it to its best, when it is most profitable. There is a varied and nutritive pasture during a long season in summer, there is an abundant supply of hay procurable for winter feeding, and an abundant and universally distributed water supply. There are very few summer or winter storms, and no severe ones. Blizzards and wind storms are unknown. The winter climate is less severe than that of the districts along the Saskatchewan further east, on account of the Chinook winds. As a consequence, a better class of cattle can be raised more cheaply and with less danger of loss in this district than in some other parts. This advantage which tells so heavily in favor of the district for cattle raising, tell as heavily in favor of dairying. Native fruits—wild strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, saskatoon and cranberries, cherries and black currants—grow in profusion almost everywhere, and tobacco is successfully cultivated. All through the country small game, principally mallard and teal, prairie chicken and partridge, is very plentiful, and deer may not infrequently be found. Coal of excellent quality is found throughout the whole district from east of Medicine Hat to the Rocky Mountains, and from the International boundary to north of the Saskatchewan River, being exposed on the east banks of the Saskatchewan and other streams in abundance, and is procurable at about 75 cents a load by the settler hauling it from the mine himself, and is delivered in the towns at from \$1 to \$1.75 per ton. Settlers can supply themselves by paying a fee ranging from 10 cents to 20 cents a ton in some localities. There is plenty of wood for building material, and fuel in almost every part of the district. Gold is found in the bars and benches of the Saskatchewan, Macleod, Athabasca, Smoky and other rivers in small, but paying quantities. These are known as the "poor man's diggings," and many settlers after seeding, when the water is low, turn miners and make from \$1.50 to \$5 per day, and so profitable is this work that dredging machines have been successfully



Post Office and City Hall, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

operated under experienced direction. So good is the reputation that this section of the country enjoys that settlement was made at a number of points before the railway was complete, and in 1892, when the road was in full operation, a more regular stream of settlement began. There is, however, such ample room, for choice of locations that thousands can find room for selection in the free sections. This, however, will not continue to be the case for many years.

Southern Alberta.

Southern Alberta, which forms the extreme southwestern corner of the prairie region of Western Canada, stands unrivalled among the stock countries of the world. The country is level, open prairie in the eastern portion, but it is much broken along the western side by the foothills of the Rockies. Cattle and horses graze out all the year round, instinctively finding shelter in the bottom lands whenever needed, and hay is easily and cheaply secured as provision for weak stock. With good management, the profits to stockmen are large, in late years \$35 to \$40 per head being paid for steers on the ranges, the animals only costing their owners the interest on the original investment in stocking the ranch and their share of the annual round-up. Large bands of young stock are annually brought in from Eastern Canada and some of the Western American States, to be fattened on the ranges, the profits being sufficiently large to amply recompense the re-shipment, after fattening, to Europe and other Eastern markets. Mixed farming is successfully carried on pretty generally throughout the district, and will largely increase as irrigation operations are extended. At various places the dairy industry is rapidly developing. Though a large portion of Southern Alberta is bare of timber for fuel, this lack is amply compensated for by an inexhaustible supply of coal of excellent quality, which crops out at many points along the steep banks of the streams that plentifully water the country.

The principal towns of Alberta, are Lethbridge, Macleod, Okotoks, High River, Cardston and Pincher Creek in the south, Calgary in the centre, Canmore, Anthracite and Banff in the west, and Olds, Innisfail, Red Deer, Lacombe, Wetaskiwin, South Edmonton, Edmonton, Fort Saskatchewan and St. Albert in the north.

Calgary is a bright and busy city of about 4,000 population. It is situated at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow rivers, about seventy miles east of the Rocky Mountains. It is the centre of the northern



Mr. R. F. Roddick's Farm near Brandon Manitoba.

ranching districts of Southern Alberta, and supplies many of the smaller mining towns to the west. It is built principally of white stone, and is the junction of the Calgary & Edmonton and Macleod branches with the main line of the C. P. Railway. It is an important station of the Mounted Police, and in a variety of ways does a large and increasing business. It has waterworks, electric light, first-class hotels, brewery, several churches and public and private schools, creamery, pork factory, cold storage and large stores.

Edmonton, on the north bank of the Saskatchewan, is the market town for the farmers, traders, miners, etc., on the north side of the Saskatchewan, and for the trade of the great Mackenzie Basin, and, like Calgary, is an outfitting place for those taking the inland route to the Klondike and the Peace River and other gold bearing streams in the Rocky Mountains. It is a prosperous town with a population of nearly 2,000. The place is lighted by electricity, and has all the modern adjuncts of thriving towns.

South Edmonton, on the south bank of the Saskatchewan and the Calgary and Edmonton Railway, is another rising centre where good hotel accommodation, stores, creamery, flour and oatmeal mills, brewery, bank, three grain elevators, foundry and machine shops, and pump factory, etc., are established.

Fort Saskatchewan, twenty miles east of Edmonton, is the headquarters for the Mounted Police in that district, and the distributing point for the Beaver Hill and Vermillion region.

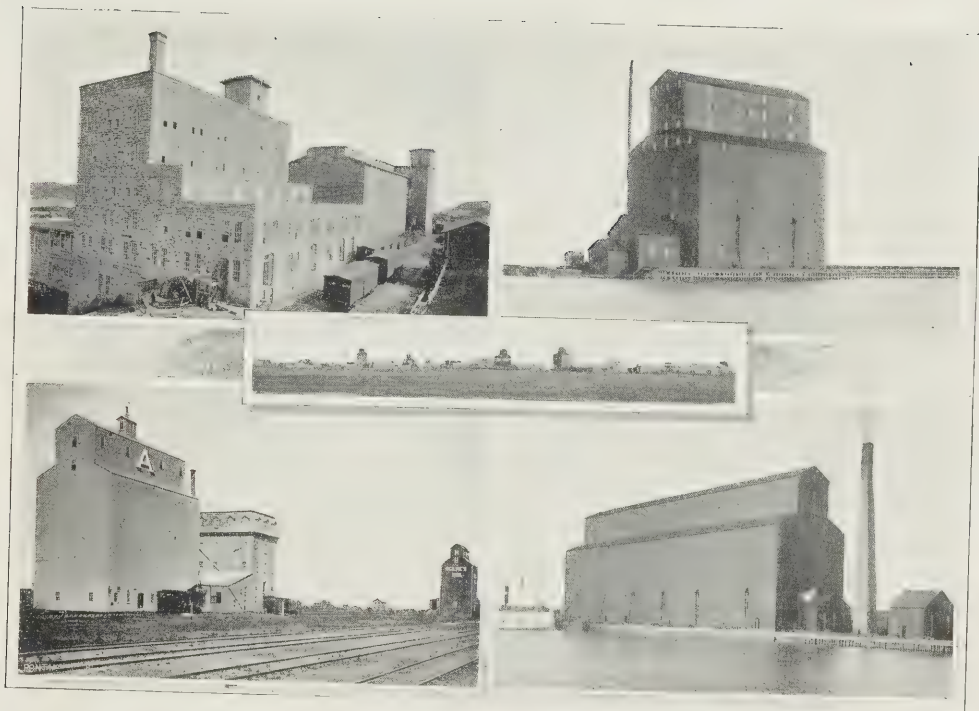
Leduc, eighteen miles south of Edmonton, on Leduc Lake, is the centre of a well-settled farming district.

Wetaskiwin is the busiest town between Edmonton and Calgary, and possesses some good stores, creamery, elevator, hotels, etc. It is the market for the Beaver Lake and Battle River settlements.

Lacombe is twenty miles north of Red Deer in the centre of a rich farming country, and is the market town for the Beaver Lake district. It has a flour mill, creamery, etc.

Red Deer, on the river of the same name, half way between Calgary and





Elevators and Mills in Western Canada.

Edmonton, is the centre of a fine stock country, there being several large ranches in the vicinity.

Innisfail is a prettily situated and very prosperous town, seventy miles north of Calgary, with several stores, hotels, creamery and a grist mill.

Olds is a rising town, fifty-five miles north of Calgary, around which there is a well settled country.

Okotoks, between Calgary and Macleod, has several factories and stores, creamery, saw mill and planing mill.

High River is the centre of a large cattle range northeast, from which large shipments are made.

Macleod (population 1,000), on the Old Man River, at the southern terminus of the Calgary & Edmonton Railway, is the chief centre of business and headquarters for the great ranching industry of Southern Alberta.

Pincher Creek, in the foothills of the Rockies, is a thriving village, in the centre of an excellent farming country.

Lethbridge, on the Crow's Nest line of the C. P. R., situated about thirty miles east of Macleod, is a coal mining town, doing a good business.

Cardston, on Lee's Creek, fifteen miles from the boundary, is the centre of a well settled and prosperous district.

Cattle Raising

There are countless herds of fat cattle on the ranges of Southern Alberta, which at any season are neither fed nor sheltered; cattle, too, which in point of breeding, size and general condition, are equal, if not superior, to any range cattle in the world. Shorthorns, Herefords, and Polled Angus (black and red of the latter) are the chief breeds. There are some Holsteins and Ayrshires, but they are not generally used except where dairying is the main desideratum. For the small stock breeds, where dairying and beef producing must naturally go hand in hand, probably a good milking strain of Shorthorns will be found the most profitable.

To illustrate the class of cattle produced, it may be mentioned that a train load of four-year-old steers from the Cochrane ranch, after being driven 140 miles and shipped by rail 2,300 miles to Montreal, weighed at the end of the trip on the average 1,385 lbs. Four-year-olds and long threes have during the past four years netted the owners from \$40 to \$45 on the range; three-year-old and good cows, \$32 to \$37 each; old cows,



Mr. C. Hunt's Farm, Whitewater, Manitoba.

from \$24 to \$28. Calves from six to eight months old are worth \$10 to \$14. Bulls for breeding purposes are imported chiefly from the eastern provinces of Canada and Great Britain. Breeding enterprises for furnishing bulls, under the management of experienced men, would doubtless prove profitable ventures, and several are already being carried on, furnishing a class of stock not exceeded by many of the older established breeding farms of the east. The outlay in cattle ranging is meeting with satisfactory and encouraging reward, there being ready sale at the ranches. In Northern Alberta this branch is but in its infancy, but is developing rapidly. The local market annually consumes from eighteen to twenty thousand beeves, with a growing demand, while the great market of the world is within easy access. The number shipped for England is annually increasing.

Horse Raising

In breeding horses, Alberta occupies a somewhat similar position to Canada that Kentucky does to the United States. Owing to the high altitude, dry and invigorating atmosphere, short and mild winters, and inexhaustible supply of clear cold water, it is pre-eminently adapted for breeding horses, and the Alberta animal has already become noted for endurance, lung power, and perfect freedom from hereditary and other diseases. There are in Alberta several grades of horses, varying in point of quality from the hardy Indian pony (cayuse) to the beautiful, well-formed thoroughbred. Thoroughbreds from Great Britain and Kentucky, Clydesdales from Scotland, Percherons from France and trotting stock from the United States, have been imported at great expense, and the result is that the young horse of Alberta will compare with any in Canada, and finds a ready market in England and Belgium. Good three-quarter bred Clydes and Shires, which at maturity will weigh 1,400 to 1,600 lbs., have been selling at three years old readily for \$75 to \$85. Good



Mining Towns in British Columbia.

quality of other classes bring from \$40 to \$100. During 1896 Alberta-bred horses carried off all the principal events they were entered in in Montana and other Western States against fastest stock of Northwestern America.

Sheep

For sheep, there are thousands of acres of rich grass lands, well watered, and adapted in every way for first-class mutton and fine wool, where cold rains and dust storms, so injurious to the fleeces, are almost unknown. There is a railway through the centre of the grazing lands and markets for mutton and wool are within reach. The clear, dry, bracing air of the country suits sheep, which suffer from little or no disease. Sheep mature early, owing to the fine quality of the grass. To winter them safely, good, warm, roomy sheds, plenty of hay (ten tons to the 100 head), and attention, are all that is wanted. The popular breeds are Shrops and Downs, and in most cases they are crossed with Merinos. During the last decade many hundreds of thousand cattle, sheep and horses have been raised in the southern half of Alberta on the rich grasses, without any feeding or shelter other than the shelter found along the hillsides or in clumps of trees on the bottom lands. The cattle and sheep when taken off the pasture are fat and fit for any butcher's shop in the world, and the horses are in capital condition.

Hogs

The favorite breeds are Berkshires, small Yorkshire Whites and Tamworths, which, if fed until they weigh from 150 to 200 lbs. dressed, quoted (winter of 1896-97) at \$5 per 100 lbs. for consignment to pork packing and curing establishments. Those who are patrons of any creamery can always rear several pigs and find an active demand for them, and a good market is always attainable to those who have a surplus of coarse or inferior grains which can best be utilized in developing pigs to proper weight.

Poultry

Probably one of the most profitable branches of farming in the Canadian West is the production of eggs, especially if these can be obtained during the winter months, when prices range from 30c. to 40c. a dozen.



Mr. J. Johnson, Neepawa Manitoba—Gardener and His Pets

There is also a fair demand for fowls for shipment east and west. This climate cannot be equalled for the rearing of turkeys, the dryness and altitude being especially favorable for this profitable bird. Geese, which are exceedingly hardy and easy to rear, grow to a large size on the rich pasture without very much care or extra feeding.

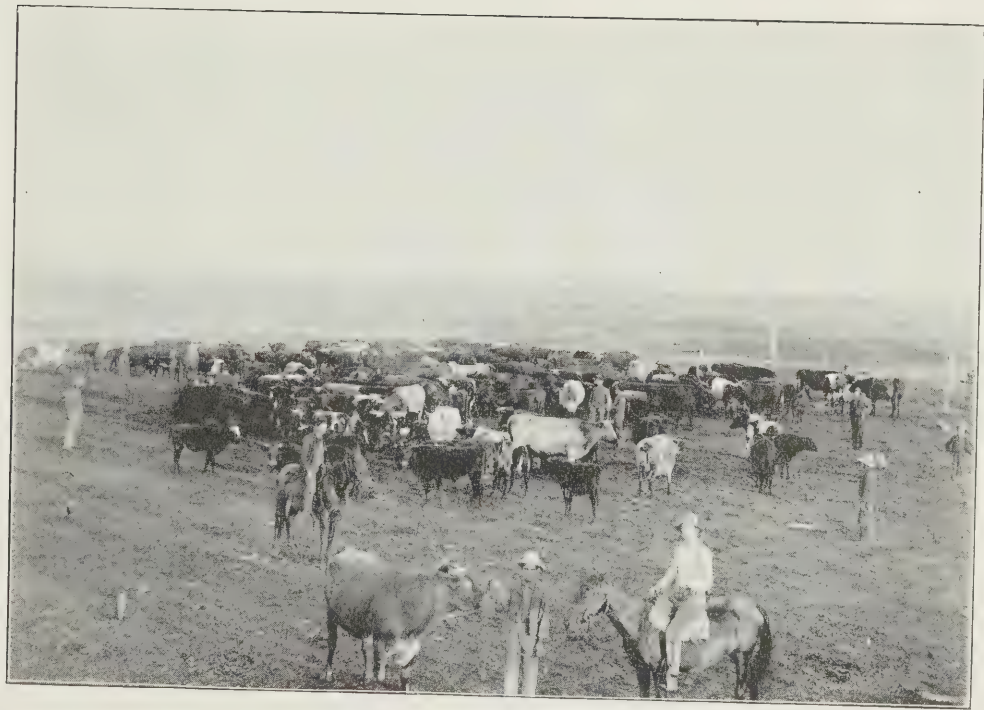
Markets

The apparent great distance of Northern Alberta from the large centres of population frequently leads to the wrong impression that the settlers there are without markets. Nothing could be farther from the actual facts. Northern Alberta is the nearest agricultural country to the rich mining regions of British Columbia which are rapidly developing, and with which a large and growing trade has already been established, and the whole Mackenzie Basin is supplied from Edmonton, which is an outfitting and supply depot for prospectors taking the Edmonton route to the Klondike and the gold-bearing streams north and west, whose head waters are reached from that town. The trade of this vast district is immense, and gradually increasing, as mining and trading in the north expand. The establishment of flour and oatmeal mills, creameries, etc., ensures an excellent market for the products of the farm. The ranchmen of Southern Alberta find a ready market for their stock practically at their very doors through buyers who supply the English market. The construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway is furnishing another market in the rapidly developing camps of the Kootenay, a few hundred miles distant.

Dairying

The conditions for carrying on dairying exist most favorably in Alberta, and although the industry is only in its infancy, great strides have been made. There are five government creameries in operation, besides several private ones. The output of butter of the former during the months of June, July and August last was 89,271 lbs.,



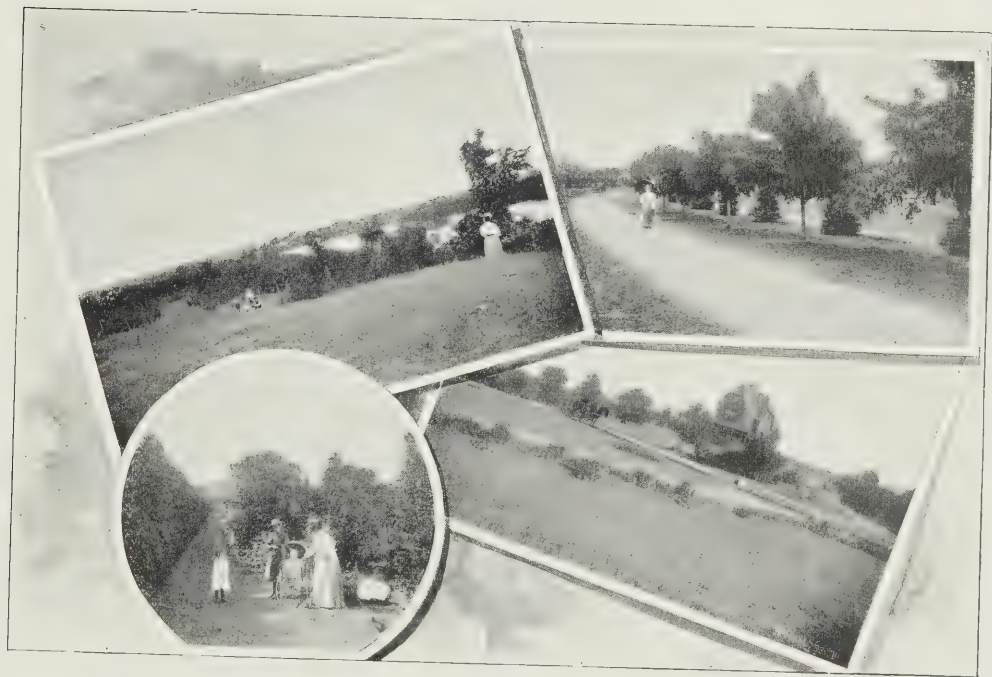


Henderson's Stock Ranch, Lake Manitoba.

of which nearly 73,000 lbs. were shipped to Great Britain and British Columbia. Good paying prices are obtained, the government making cash advances to the patrons on shipment of the product. The government creameries are established at Calgary, Innisfail, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton, and private enterprise has erected those at Olds, Tindastoll and Bowden. All have a number of separating stations, and a system of cold storage, and a regular refrigerator service is furnished by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. between certain points for the shipment of dairy produce, eggs and poultry.

Minerals

Alberta also possesses untold wealth in her immense mineral deposits. For years past gold in paying quantities has been found on the banks and bars of the North and South Saskatchewan and in the Pembina, Smoky, Macleod and Athabasca rivers. Gold colors are found in many streams and rivers in Alberta. Large veins of galena have been located, which are pronounced by experts to contain a large percentage of silver. Capital alone is wanting to make them treasures of wealth to the country. Copper ore in enormous quantities has also been found, said to contain sixty per cent. of pure copper. Iron ore has been discovered in various parts of Alberta. A forty-foot seam of hematite iron, said to contain sixty-seven per cent. of iron, exists at the base of Storm Mountain, quite close to the Canadian Pacific Railway line, and other large seams exist in the Macleod district, in the vicinity of Crow's Nest Pass. As to the quantity of the coal deposits of Alberta, it is impossible to form any estimate, the whole country being underlaid with rich deposits of anthracite, bituminous, semi-bituminous and lignite. The coal mines already discovered are of sufficient extent to supply Canada with fuel for centuries. Lignites are now mined at Medicine Hat, Cypress Hills, Red Deer, Oatoskiwan, Edmonton, Sturgeon River and Victoria, and are obtained at the pit's mouth at from 65c. to \$2.50 per ton, according to the demand—the greater the sale, the lower the price. The semi-bituminous is mined at Lethbridge (where \$1,500,000 have been invested), Pot Hole, Milk River Ridge, Woodpecker, Crowfoot and Knee Hill Creek, and is obtained at from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per ton. The true bituminous is mined at Waterton River, Pincher Creek, on each of the South, Middle and North branches of the Old Man River, Sheep Creek, Fish Creek, Bow River and Canmore, and fetches similar prices to the semi-bituminous. Anthracite is mined at Anthracite



Views on Experimental Farm, Brandon, Manitoba.

(four miles from Banff), and is sold aboard cars at from \$2 to \$5 per ton, according to grade. There are extensive collieries at Lethbridge, Canmore and Anthracite. The government issues permits to mine on Dominion lands at the following royalties: 10c. per ton for lignites, 15c. for bituminous, and 20c. for anthracite. Soft coal is so plentiful that the certainty of a cheap fuel supply is assured to Alberta for all time to come.

Elevators

The elevator system throughout Western Canada is perfect, the facilities now existing being sufficient to handle, if necessary, 100,000,000 bushels of grain in less than six months' time. The magnificent system affords a ready market at all seasons of the year, the farmer being enabled to have his grain unloaded from his wagon, elevated, cleaned and loaded on the cars in an incredibly short space of time at very moderate charges. It is within the right of anybody or company to erect an elevator anywhere in Manitoba and the Territories under exactly the same terms and conditions as those already built, the markets being open to anyone who chooses to engage in the business. There is no monopoly, and the insistence of the railway companies upon the present system is of incalculable benefit to the producer. The following table shows the storage capacity of the elevators in Western Canada:

	BUSHEL.
C. P. R., main line, Port Arthur to Winnipeg ..	7,330,500
C. P. R., west of Winnipeg	8,775,000
N. P. R.	1,050,000
M. & N. W.	1,028,000
G. N. W. Central Railway	326,000
Dauphin R. R.	115,000
Grand Total	18,624,500

In 1891 the grand total was 7,628,000 bushels; in 1892, 10,366,700 bushels; in 1894, 11,467,000 bushels; in 1895, 13,075,200 bushels, and in 1896, 15,203,500 bushels.



Mr. W. A. Turnbull's, Nine Miles South of Hartney, Manitoba.

Western Canada's Experimental Farms

There are experimental farms at Brandon in Manitoba and Indian Head in Assiniboia under the management of the Dominion Government. At Brandon the records of the yields were, per acre: Wheat, 23 to 40½ bushels; oats, 39 to 73 bushels; barley, 36 to 46 bushels; peas, 36 to 46 bushels; and at Indian Head, wheat 25 to 42 bushels; oats, 50 to 101 bushels; barley, 49 to 77 bushels; peas, 20 to 45 bushels. As to the experiments on stubble and summer fallow, the results were very noticeable, the yield on the former ranging from 20 to 25 bushels per acre, while on the latter it advanced to from 30 to 40 bushels per acre.

Western Canada's Park

Just beyond the ranching country this beautiful spot is reached. The town is called Banff, and there is no more fascinating resort on the continent. It is on the Canadian Pacific Railway in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, and is charmingly situated in a large reservation chosen by the Dominion Government for its beauty and sublimity and healthfulness as the great breathing place of the nation. Banff is "sui generis," but in its kind cannot be excelled. Its surroundings are the mountain steeps, beside whose immense jagged heights the crags and peaks of the Alps sink into insignificance. The very acme of sublimity and grandeur is reached, and in its natural beauty Banff finds no fitting rival in other lands. In the centre of this magnificent panorama are the Banff hot springs—some natural wells of mineral water having peculiar medicinal qualities—and here the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has erected a large and luxuriously appointed hotel, perched in a niche in the mountains, commanding not only an uninterrupted view of the Bow Valley, but of peaks and stretches of the Rockies in other directions. In the surrounding country, for many miles, science has availed itself of nature's gifts to create, out of the wilderness, a mountain park, twenty-six miles long by ten wide—a public pleasure ground without an equal. Streams have been bridged, roads laid out, and trails cut, penetrating for miles into the solitudes, so that in several directions the visitors may drive, ride, wheel, or wander afoot, inhaling the health-giving mountain air, or seek the most favorable spots for brush, pencil, kodak, rod or gun.



View of Lawson's Farm, near Regina

There is excellent trout fishing in the bright and rapid Bow in the valley beneath the hotel, and good trolling on Devil's Lake, a pleasant drive of nine miles from the hotel. Steam launches, beside boats and canoes, have been placed on the Bow River for the use of visitors, enabling them to make excursions on the river and to Vermillion Lake. In the immediate vicinity there are numerous lakes, at which, in season, good duck is obtainable, and, for the more adventurous, the mountain sheep (big horn) and mountain goat, at some distance, offer a temptation to which men who have gained other laurels in the sporting world are glad to yield. An excellent museum, containing innumerable specimens of the flora, fauna, etc., of the park, has been established by the Dominion Government.

Though Banff is chiefly a resort of tourists and pleasure seekers, its waters have properties that are commended strongly by medical men. Patients are sent here to bathe in the hot sulphur baths, and these are none the less appreciated from the circumstance of there being hotel accommodation situated in the wildest part of the continent of the very best order.

Round about Banff there are numerous interesting points. There is what is known as the Lakes in the Clouds, a wonderfully pretty spot away up in the mountains.

Nine miles from Banff is Lake Minnewanka, or the Devil's Lake, a drive to which, over an excellent road, affords a pleasant outing. The natural cave and basin, in which are sulphur springs; the Bow Falls, at the confluence of two mountain streams in the valley beneath the hotel; the hot springs on Sulphur Mountain; the Loop, a beautiful drive around the Bow Valley; the Spray Ride up the Spray Valley and through the virgin forest to the Spray Canon at the foot of Goat Mountain; the Sun Dance Canon, a remarkable cleft in the mountain; and the crest of Tunnel Mountain, reached by a spiral drive, are some of the more noted points.



Mr. J. A. S. McMillan's Sheep Ranch, near Brandon.

British Columbia

British Columbia, the most westerly Province of Canada, is also one of the largest and richest in the variety and volume of its resources. Its commanding position on the North Pacific Ocean makes it one of the most important and valuable Provinces of the Dominion, and its trade, which is rapidly increasing in volume, has assumed immense proportions, and reaches to all parts of the civilized globe, with which it has established means of direct communication. It is Canada's western outlet to China, Japan, and the far East, to Australasia and the Islands of the South Pacific, and to the great gold basin of the Yukon, which lies immediately to the north of it.

The Province, which is about 700 miles in length, with an average width of 400 miles, contains an estimated area of 383,000 square miles. Its limits extend from the 49th parallel—the international boundary between the Dominion and the United States—on the south, to the 60th degree of north latitude and from the summit of the Rocky Mountains westward to the Pacific Ocean—Vancouver, Queen Charlotte Islands, and a large part of the archipelago of the Pacific coast being included within its bounds, and forming a portion of Canada's great Maritime Province of the West. Speaking generally, British Columbia is a mountainous country, with intervening valleys of rich prairie, magnificent stretches of forest lands and incomparable waterways. Its natural resources—in its mines, forests, streams and soil—are numerous, diversified and practically illimitable. Its timber is unequalled in quality, quantity and variety; its numerous mines already discovered and under process of development, and its wide extent of unexplored country, speak of vast areas of mineral wealth; its wide, fertile valleys indicate wonderful agricultural possibilities; and its water, containing marvellous quantities of the most palatable and valuable fish, combine to give British Columbia a value that is now only beginning to be comprehended. The whole country, which is awakening to a new life through the rapid development of its boundless resources, offers unparalleled inducements to the home-seeker, whether it be the settler in search of a farm, the miner in quest of gold or other precious metals, the lumberman, the fisherman



New Denver British Columbia, from West.

or the business man, with large or small capital for investment. It is a country of great possibilities and certainties to the persevering, industrious and frugal, and one which offers many opportunities to all classes.

Climate

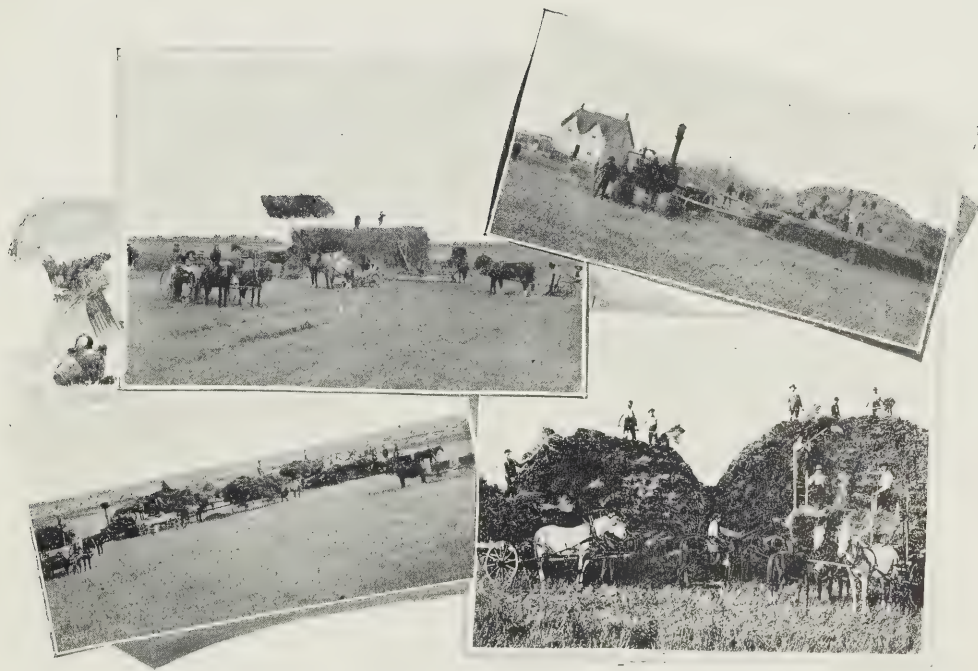
The climate varies considerably, as the Province is naturally divided into two sections, insular and continental. It is much more moderate and equable than that of any other Province of the Dominion. In the southwestern portion of the mainland, and particularly on the southeastern part of Vancouver Island, the climate is much superior to that of Southern England or Central France. In this section of the Province snow seldom falls, and then lies but a few hours or days. Vegetation remains green and the flowers are bright through the greater part of nearly every winter; while in spring and summer disagreeable east winds, excessively heavy rains and long-continued fogs are unknown.

Coast and Harbors

British Columbia has a magnificent ocean frontage of 1,000 miles, its coast line on both island and mainland being sinuous and indented to a remarkable degree. It has many fine harbors, the principal of which is located at the entrance of Burrard Inlet, a few miles north of the mouth of the Fraser River, on which is Vancouver, the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which traverses the Dominion from Atlantic tidewater.

Victoria, on Vancouver Island, possesses an outer harbor, at which all the ocean liners dock, and an inner harbor for vessels drawing up to eighteen feet.

Three miles from Victoria is Esquimalt harbor, which is about three miles long and something under two miles



Harvest Scenes in Manitoba.

broad in the widest part: it has an average depth of six to eight fathoms, and affords excellent holding ground, the bottom being a tenacious blue clay. The Canadian Government has built a dry-dock at Esquimalt.

Nanaimo, at the coal mines, has also a commodious and well-sheltered harbor.

Rivers

Of the rivers of British Columbia, the principal are the Fraser, the Columbia, the Thompson, the Kootenay, the Skeena, the Stikine, the Liard, and the Peace.

Minerals

It would be difficult to indicate any defined section of British Columbia in which gold or silver has not been or will not be found. The first mines discovered were on the Thompson River; then on the Fraser and Hope, and continued up the Fraser to the Cariboo district. Latterly, the Kootenay and Yukon districts have been yielding wonderfully in gold, creating a world-wide reputation. There are large areas open to the poor prospector, and there are numerous openings for the capitalist in each of these districts.

The total output of gold since its first discovery in British Columbia, even before new mineral districts were opened up by the Canadian Pacific Railway, was estimated at \$60,000,000. It is now far in excess of this. With present facilities for prospecting, much heavier returns are expected, for the era of scientific mining in British Columbia has only commenced.

In British Columbia a belt of rocks, probably corresponding to the gold rocks of California, has already been proved to be richly auriferous. Geological explorations go to show a general resemblance of the rocks to those of the typical sections of California and the Western States.

Silver has been discovered in several places, and its further discovery will probably show that it follows the same rules as in Nevada and Colorado. The best known argentiferous locality is the West Kootenay, from whose mines shipments of ore are largely increasing yearly.

Great iron deposits exist in Texada Island, and copper deposits have been found at several points on the coast of the mainland, Howe Sound, Jarvis Inlet, the Queen Charlotte Island; and other points. Cinnabar and platinum have been found in small quantities during the process of washing gold.



Bow River, looking towards The Loop, Banff, Alberta.

Bituminous coal has been extensively worked for many years past at Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island, at which place there are large deposits, and indications of coal have been found at several other places on that island. Several seams of bituminous coal have been discovered on the mainland in the New Westminster and Nicola districts, and other indications of coal have been found in many parts. The same formation exists on the mainland as on the island, and the New Westminster and Nicola coal beds are probably small portions of a large area.

The coal fields of the Crow's Nest Pass in East Kootenay are said to be the largest in the world in extent.

Timber

No other province of Canada, no country in Europe, and no state in North America, compares with British Columbia in respect to its timber.

There are prairies here and there, valleys free from wood, and many openings in the thickest country, which in the aggregate make many hundred thousand acres of land on which no clearing is required, but near each open spot is a luxuriant growth of wood.

The finest growth is on the coast, and in the Gold and Selkirk ranges. Millions on millions of feet of lumber, locked for centuries past, have now become available for commerce. The trees of British Columbia include: Douglas Spruce (otherwise called "Douglas Fir," "Douglas Pine," and commercially, "Oregon Pine"). A well-known tree. It is straight, though coarse-grained, exceedingly tough, rigid, and bears great transverse strain. For lumber of all sizes and planks it is in great demand. Few woods equal it for frames, bridges, ties, and strong work generally, and for ship-building. Its length, straightness and strength specially fit it for masts and spars. The White Pine, resembling the White Pine of the eastern provinces, making the most valuable lumber in their markets; the Black Pine, the Bull Pine,





Camping Party in Turtle Mountain District.

the yellow Cypress (commonly called the Yellow Cedar), the Western Larch (sometimes called Tamarack), Englemann's Spruce, Menzie's Spruce, the Great Silver Fir, Balsam Spruce, besides Oak, Elm, Maple, Aspen, and other deciduous trees. These several growths are found more or less throughout the province, both on the mainland and the adjacent islands. The Douglas Spruce, the largest and most valuable, attains its greatest size in the neighborhood of the coast, but is found elsewhere. Owing to the variety of climates in British Columbia, the several classes of trees named are to some extent localized.

Fisheries

The most valuable fishery of British Columbia is the salmon. They literally team in the Fraser and Columbia Rivers, and during the seasons of the salmon runs broad expanses of river or deep pools may be seen packed with wriggling masses of splendid fish making their way to the spawning grounds. The greater number of the canneries where these fish are put up for export are on the Fraser River, but there are some in the more northern part of the province. The salmon make their way for great distances up the rivers. The salmon of the Columbia fill the streams of the Kootenay; those of the Fraser are found six hundred miles in the interior. There are five different kinds of this fish, the spring or tyhee, sockeye, coho, dog and humpback (the two latter being of no commercial value), and they arrive from the sea at different times. There are sixty-seven canneries in the province, employing 16,200 men. Each cannery costs from \$30,000 to \$40,000, equipped, so that about \$2,000,000 are invested in the enterprise. The value of the fish catch has increased enormously, largely owing to the establishment of fish hatcheries. The annual salmon pack has increased since the beginning of the industry in 1876 from 9,847 cases to 990,000 cases in 1897, valued at \$4,000,000, and, owing to the fish hatcheries established by the Government, there is no danger of the rivers being depleted. Besides this, the fish consumed yearly in the province and exported fresh amounts to \$250,000. During the fifteen years, 1883 to 1897, inclusive, the value of the salmon caught was \$33,000,000, and to this should be added the catch of halibut, sturgeon, herring, oolachan, trout, cod, etc., the grand aggregate to date of the value of the fishery product of British Columbia, including fur seals, being \$50,000,000.



House of J. Schenck, Near Brandon.

The oolachan, which come in great numbers, supply a valuable oil largely used by the natives. The black cod, a superior food fish, abounds from Cape Flattery northward. Cod, similar to the eastern variety, are taken on the banks off the coast of Alaska. Halibut of fine quality and large size are plentiful in the inner waters, on the banks off the west coast of Vancouver Island, and further north. The halibut fisheries are just being developed, and during the past three years large quantities were exported. The estimated catch of last season was 4,000,000 pounds. Sturgeon of very heavy weight, and occasionally up to fifty pounds, are numerous in the Fraser and large rivers. 1893 and 1894 were the first years for exporting this fish, and higher prices were secured than for sturgeon caught elsewhere. There is a great future for this industry, especially in the manufacture of caviare, which Professor Prince, Dominion Fishery Commissioner, has pronounced equal to the Russian article. The surf smelt and common smelt and anchovy are abundant, and valued for the table. Herring is plentiful, and trout abound in the lakes, rivers and streams of the whole province.

These coasts afford wide fields for occupation, and dispense reward with less niggard hand than in the older home where every loaf has many claimants. There is no rent to pay, no leave to ask to run a boat ashore—the land is his who occupies it. A man who, in other seas, toils year in and year out for others, may here own his own home, his piece of land and his boat by no man's favor.

Land

As indicated in the description of the several districts forming the mainland portion of British Columbia, the land varies in





Kootenay Rapids, near Nelson, British Columbia.

quality in different sections. There is almost every description and quality of land, from the rich river bottom land, such as that in the Fraser delta, to the light covering of moss and sand at high altitude on the mountains. Between Yale and the coast in the New Westminster district, where the rain fall is regular, the land of the valleys is rich and heavy; east of Yale, where the rainfall is slight and irregular, there is a considerable quantity of good land, very productive, under irrigation. In the Nicola and Okanagan valleys of the Yale district, and in both the Kootenays, there is a quantity of very fertile land in some parts, as in the Okanagan section, requiring irrigation, and in other places sufficiently cared for by the rainfall. On the higher lands the bunch grass grows freely and affords the best pasturage for cattle. Where water is convenient for irrigating purposes, grains and vegetables succeed well in those sections otherwise used only for grazing. Along the Fraser valley fruit ripens well. A great number of varieties have been tried at the experimental farm at Agassiz, and the more delicate fruits have been successfully cultivated. Still greater success has been achieved in the Okanagan valley, a considerable distance east of Agassiz, so that in all parts of British Columbia south of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the land, when worked as circumstances require, is found to be of first quality for agricultural purposes. North of the railway line, in the districts of Lillooet and Cariboo, there is a considerable quantity of land adapted to farming, and still larger tracts admirably suited for cattle raising.



